is very satisfactory in six. In the remaining two, corrective measures are being taken to improve capacity utilisation. Cost and time over-runs are related to specific projects and steps are being taken in each case to arrest this trend.

French Defence Minister's visit to India

1337. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be plesed to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that during the French Defence Minister's visit to India in December, 1988 some Defence agreements had been signed;

(b) if so, the details of the same; and

(c) if the reply to part (a) above be in the negative,what discussions took place during his stay in Delhi?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION AND SUPPLIES IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE. (SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI): (a) to (c) During this visit, a consultancy agreement was signed with M/s. SOFMA of france for the Concept Design study of a sea Control ship.

Launching of Sounding Rockets from Thumba

1338. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what are the total sounding rockets launched from Thumba so far and how many pay loads were placed in sounding rockets during 1988-89 and how many of them are Indian payloads; and

(b) what in the total cost of expenditure involved in launching a Single sounding rocket?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI SHIVRAJ PATIL): (a) Total number of sounding rockets launched from Thumba upto the end of January, 1989 is 1943. This includes weekly meteorological rocket flights since December 1970, those carried out for the development of different types of sounding rockets and for conducting large number of observations for the investigation of the earth's atmosphere, ionospheric/magnetospheric phenomena and radiation emitted by galactic x-ray sources.

Total number of scientific payloads launched during 1988-89 is 98 out of which 55 payloads (including 42 payloads for measuring atmospheric winds under an equatorial wave campaign) were Indian made and 43 payloads (all for regular weekly meteorological M-100 rocket soundings) were Soviet made. Apart from the measurement of winds, the Indian payloads were launched for the measurement of the height profiles of concentrations of ozone, nitric oxide and aerosols upto about 90 km altitude and ion/electron densities and electric fields in the upper atmosphere upto about 150 km altitude.

(b) The expenditure involved in launching one single indigenous sounding rocket (including the cost of rocket and rocket instrumentation/payload) depends upon the size of the sounding rocket. The total cost including the rocket, payload, electronics and other accessaries is about Rs. 1.50 lakhs for meteorological/atmospheric sounding rockets (RH-200 type). A few rockets of RH-560 type (carry large payloads of about 100 kg reaching altitudes of 300-400 kms), however, cost about Rs. 30.00 lakhs each.

Defence Hospitals in the country

1339. SHRI BIR BHADRA PRATAP SINGH: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Defence Department runs a number of hospitals to take full care of the health needs of our defence services, and if so, what is the number of large defence hospitals in the country;

(b) whether it is a fact that the Defence hospitals are equipped with some of the latest medical equipments such as surgical lasers, and if so, what is the total number

of lasers installed or likely to be installed in defence hospitals; and

(c) whether it is also a fact that Defence hospitals are yet to be equipped with the latest Urological equipment PCNL (Percutaneous Nephrolithotripsy) though a proposal to acquire this type of equipment was made by the concerned authorities quite some time ago, and if so, by when the proposal is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION AND SUPPLIES IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI): (a) Yes, Sir. Out of 155 military hospitals under the Ministry of Defence, 37 hospitals have a capacity of more than 300 beds each.

(b) Surgical lasers are installed in two Military hospitals. Presently, there is no proposal to instal laser equipment in other Defence hospitals.

(c) Military hospitals have not been equipped with PCNL equipment due to financial constraints.

कैंसर अनुसंधान केन्द्र, बम्बई द्वारा तैयार किये गये कुष्ठ रोगरोधी टीके

1340. **श्री अजीत जोगी :**
श्री पृथ्वी माझी :

क्या **स्वास्थ्य और परिवार कल्याण** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि कैंसर अनुसंधान केन्द्र, बम्बई द्वारा तैयार किए गए कुष्ठ रोग रोधी टीकों का महाराष्ट्र के शोलापुर जिले में परीक्षण किया गया है ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो इस परीक्षण का क्या परिणाम रहा; और

(ग) कुष्ठ रोग रोधी इस टीके को कब तक वास्तविक प्रयोग में लाए जाने की सम्भावना है ?

स्वास्थ्य और परिवार कल्याण मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (कुमारी सरोज खापर्डे): (क) जी, हां, महाराष्ट्र के शोलापुर जिले में मानवों पर प्रतिरक्षण रोग-निरोधी/प्रतिरक्षण-चिकित्सीय प्रभावकारिता का मूल्यांकन करने के लिए भारतीय कसर अनुसंधान केन्द्र द्वारा तैयार की गई कैंडीडेट कुष्ठ वैक्सीन की जांच की जा रही है।

(ख) और (ग) इस जांच के परिणामों की प्रतीक्षा की जा रही है। इसके वास्तव में इस्तेमाल करने के प्रश्न पर क्षेत्रीय जांच के परिणामों के उपलब्ध होने के बाद निर्णय किया जाएगा।

Winding up of the Electronics Commission

1341. SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA. Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to wind up the Electronics Commission as it has failed to measure up to the needs of the electronics sector; and

(b) if so, what alternative arrangements are proposed by Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI SHIVRAJ PATIL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Demonstration by the employees of the Narora Atomic Power Plant

1342. SHRI SHANTI TYAGI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the newsitem which appeared in the Indian Express of January 1, 1989 stating that the employees of the Atomic Power Plant at Narora staged a demonstration against the management's move to collect Rs. 19 lakhs from them for installing a disc antenna at their colony for better reception of T V. programmes; and

(b) if so, what is the reaction of Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURSM (SHRI SHIVRAJ PATIL): (a)There was a demonstration staged at